Central Ammunition Depot at Pulgaon, Field Ammunition Depot at Jodhpur and one Ammunition Company as a pilot project.

8. The steps taken in the ordnance Factories to insulate them from such accidents are:-

(a) A detailed safety procedure has been formulated for strict compliance.

(b) Regular safety committee meetings are held to ensure safety awareness amongst employees..

(c) Manufacture and storage of explosives/ammunition is carried out strictly in accordance with the existing guidelines.

(d) Gadgets like CCTV, automatic fire detection and drenching system are provided in high risk/fire prone areas.

(e) A three tier system of safety audit exists in each factory which carries out periodical safety audit.

(f) Strict access control is maintained to prevent any unauthorized entry inside factory premises.

RFP route for manufacture of vehicles by VFJ

888. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:
SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Vehicle Factory, Jabalpur (VFJ) has been asked to come through Request for Proposal (RFP) route for manufacture of variants of existing series of vehicles;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor when VFJ is captive unit cater to requirement of armed forces;

(c) whether placement of indent on VFJ requires a clearance from Finance Ministry;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the sanctioned manpower strength of VFJ, category-wise and existing manpower; and

(f) the action taken to fill up the vacancies keeping in view the present age profile of employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. No variants of existing series of vehicles manufactured by VFJ are being procured at present. However, containers (only body without vehicle) for specific purposes, based on existing vehicles, are under procurement. The vehicles being used for mounting these containers will be sourced from VFJ only, as and when required. VFJ was asked to follow the RFP route for various containers developed by them.

(c) and (d) The placement of indent on VFJ would not require clearance from Ministry of Finance.

(e) and (f) Category-wise sanctioned strength of VFJ is as under:—

Category	Sanctioned Strength	Existing Strength
Group 'A'	83	63
Group 'B'	149	122
Non-Gazetted Officer	1060	730
Non-Industrial Employees	1272	1013
Industrial Employees	7467	3866

Vacancies are being filled up in accordance with Government Policy on Annual Direct Recruitment Plan.

Joint Development of 5th Generation Fighter Plane with Russia

889. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the salient features of the agreement which India and Russia have signed recently for joint development of a futuristic '5th generation' fighter plane;

(b) which design has been chosen in this crucial project;

(c) will these '5th generation' fighter be in addition to India's existing inventory or will they replace the '4th generation' machines; and

(d) will this involve major changes in the training module of our pilots who are presently flying the 4th generation fighter planes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) An Inter Governmental Agreement (IGA) signed between the Indian and Russian Government on 18th October, 2007 envisages co-operation in:

Joint development and certification of a Prospective Multi-role Fighter (PMF); Preparation and set up of the fighter serial production; Joint production and sale of the fighter; Joint marketing in third countries etc.

(b) The fighter will be designed and developed in accordance with the technical requirements of Russian Air Force and Indian Air Force.

(c) PMF will replace aircraft which would be phased out by that time.

(d) The training pattern of aircrew and ground crew will be tailored specifically for the effective induction and operationalisation of PMF.

Infiltration through sea routes

890. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) will the Hon'ble Defence Minister kindly recall his recent statement in Parliament that there are intelligence reports about terrorists of various groups being trained and the likelihood of the infiltration through sea routes; and